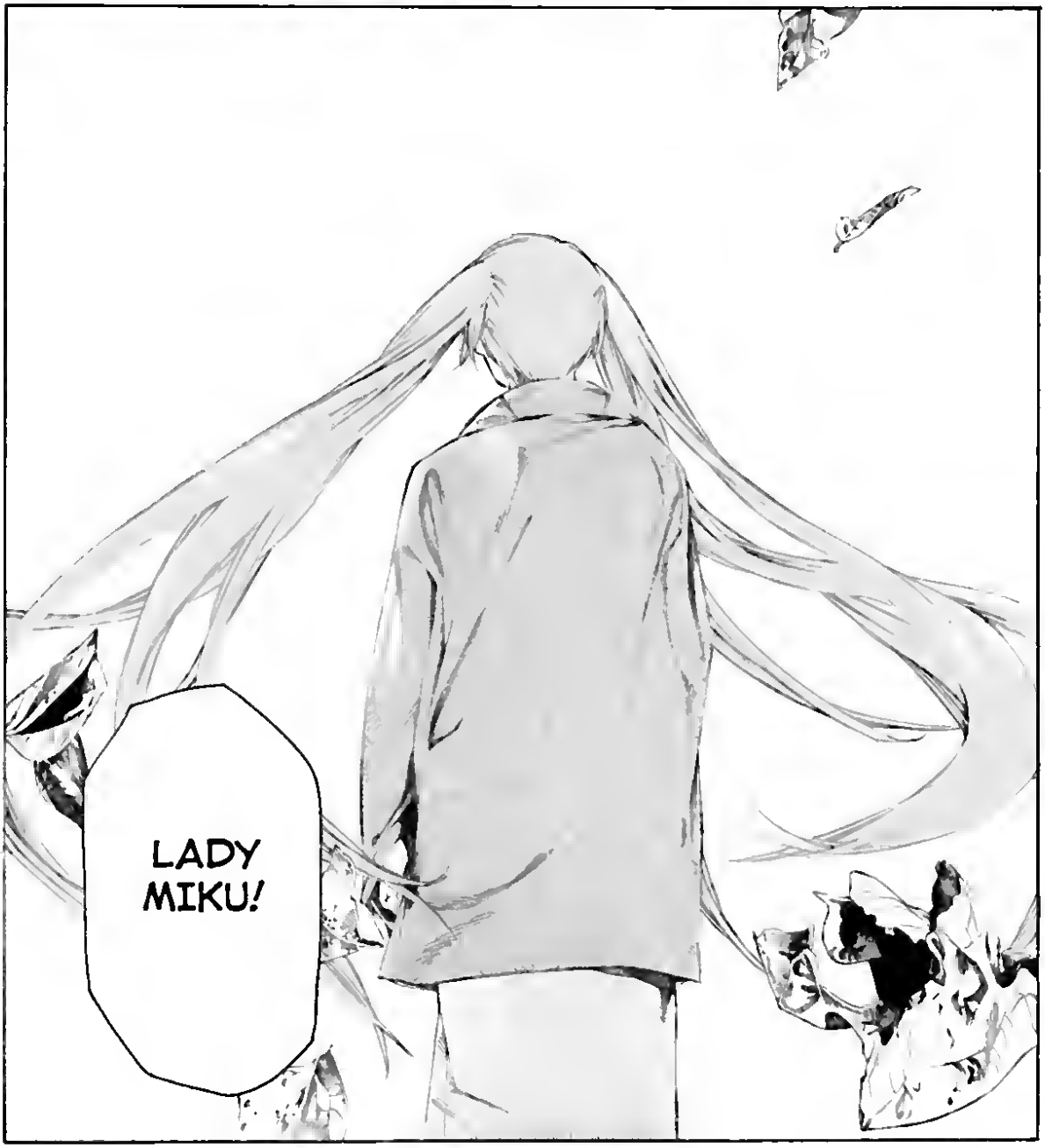
A GIRL ON A SILENT JOURNEY. HER NAME, MIKU.



The Fox's Wedding
狐ノ嫁入り

CHAPTER 2

THOSE DAYS OF OUR YOUTH
WILL NEVER RETURN.

THE GIRL THEY SPENT THAT DAY
WITH BACK THEN IS NOW...

ORIGINAL CONCEPT: OSTER PROJECT
CHARACTER CONCEPT: CHIHO
MANGA: YUUKO SATOU

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Hmph

ARE YOU STILL ANGRY?
SISTER...
I REFUSE TO ALLOW YOU TO MEET HER ALONE.

SINCE THE DEATH OF OUR FATHER, OUR COUNTRY OF MUSASHI HAS BEEN UNDER SEIGE FROM THE SUR-ROUNDING NATIONS.
YOU HEARD FROM OUR UNCLE AS WELL, MY MARRIAGE WITH LADY MIKU IS FOR THE GOOD OF THE COUNTRY.
IF THE WORST WERE TO HAPPEN, I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO OUR COUN-TRYMEN... AND YOU.

.....
AND BESIDES!
WHAT OF THIS MIKU?!
!?!
OUR FATHER... SAID THE SAME, AND THEN NEVER RETURNED HOME.
SFX GASP
THERE MUST BE SOME SORT OF ULTERIOR MOTIVE.
PERHAPS SHE WISHES TO SHOW A BENEVOLENT FACE TO OUR NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES...
ALLOWING THE DAUGHTER OF THE LEADER OF A COUNTRY TO TRAVEL ALONE IS A TERRIBLY CARELESS ACTION!
WHY IS SHE COMING TO OUR COUNTRY ALONE, WITHOUT THE PROTECTION OF LORD KAIDOU?
DOM

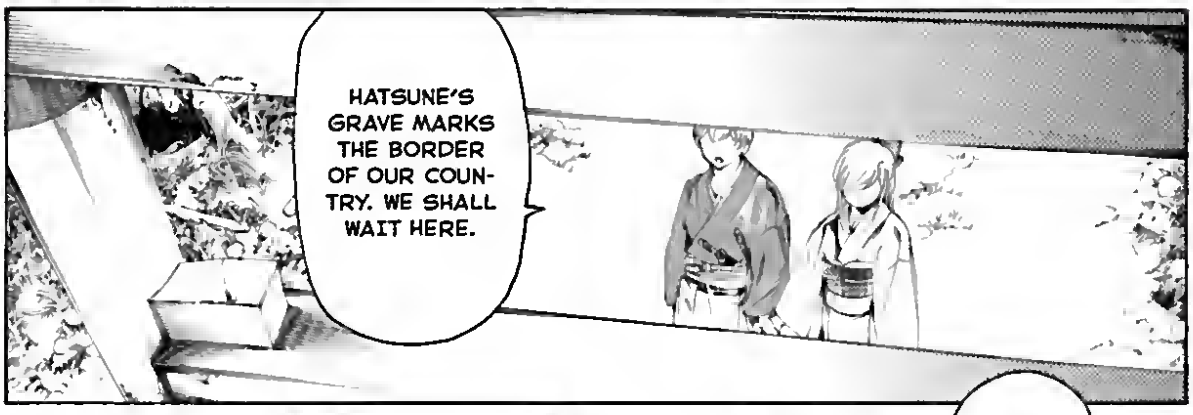
RIN!
YOU MUST STOP THIS!
I'M SORRY...
...NO. IT SEEMS THAT WHEN IT COMES TO LADY MIKU, YOU GET SO EMOTIONAL OVER THE SMALLEST THINGS...
H-HEY!
SHOOP
Grip
.....
ドク...
SHK

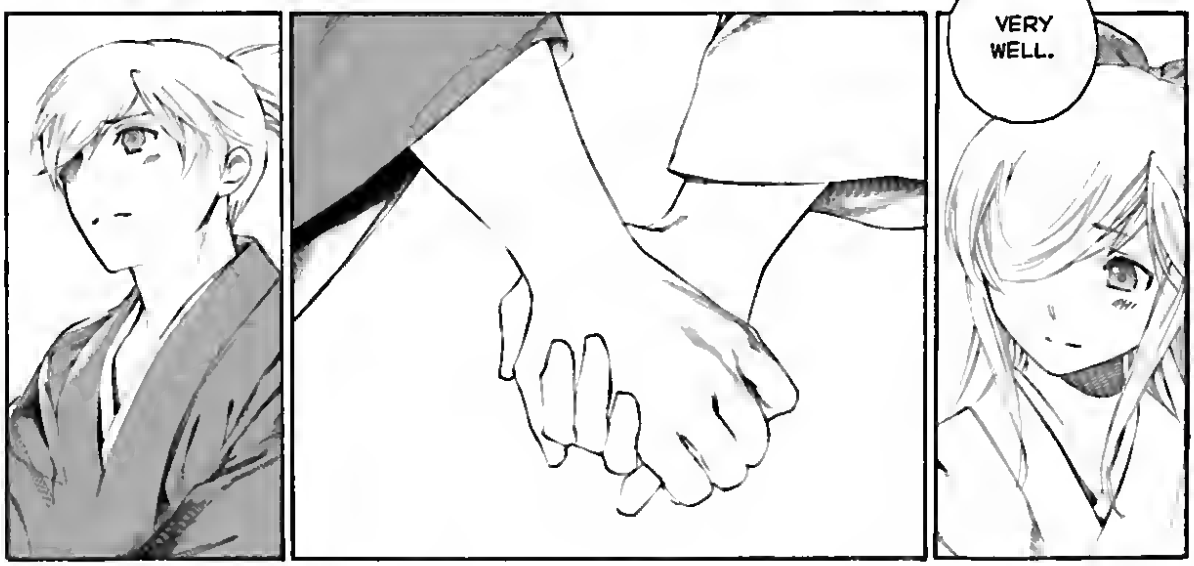
YOU WON'T CALL ME BY NAME?
PLEASE, SISTER...THIS IS IMMODEST... LADY MIKU WILL BE HERE SOO--
...I...I CAN'T, MY SISTER.
LIKE YOU DID JUST NOW, CALL ME RIN...

Chomp

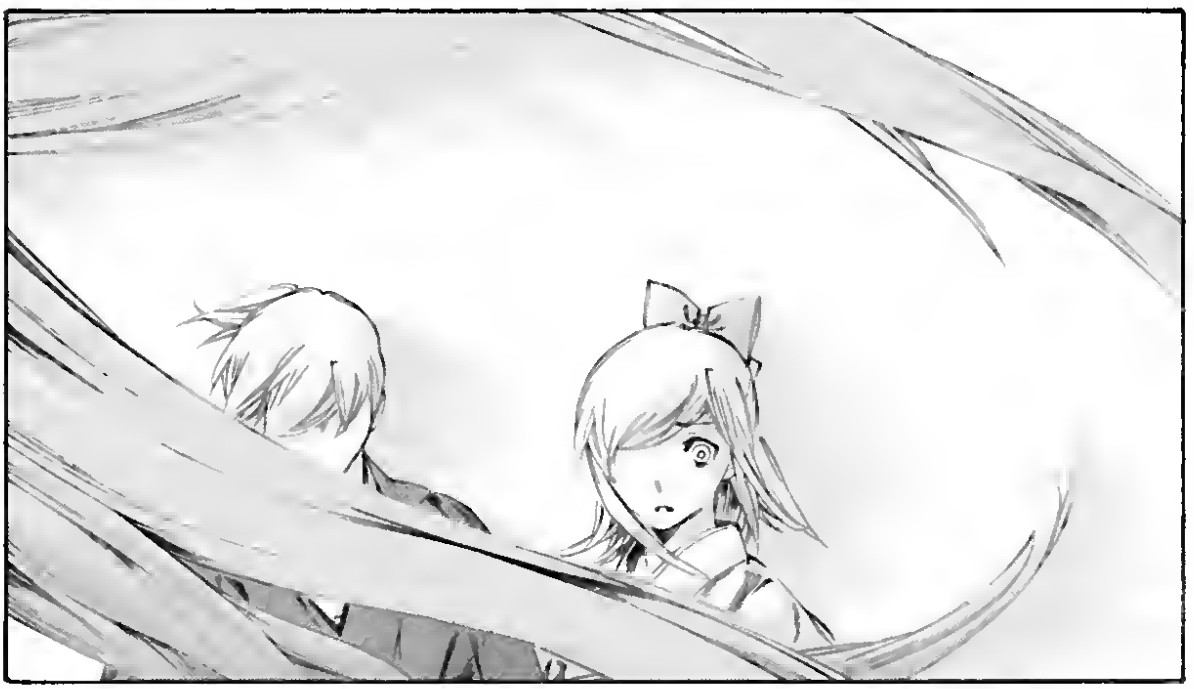
CALL ME RIN...
...RIN.

I WILL NOT... GIVE YOU UP...

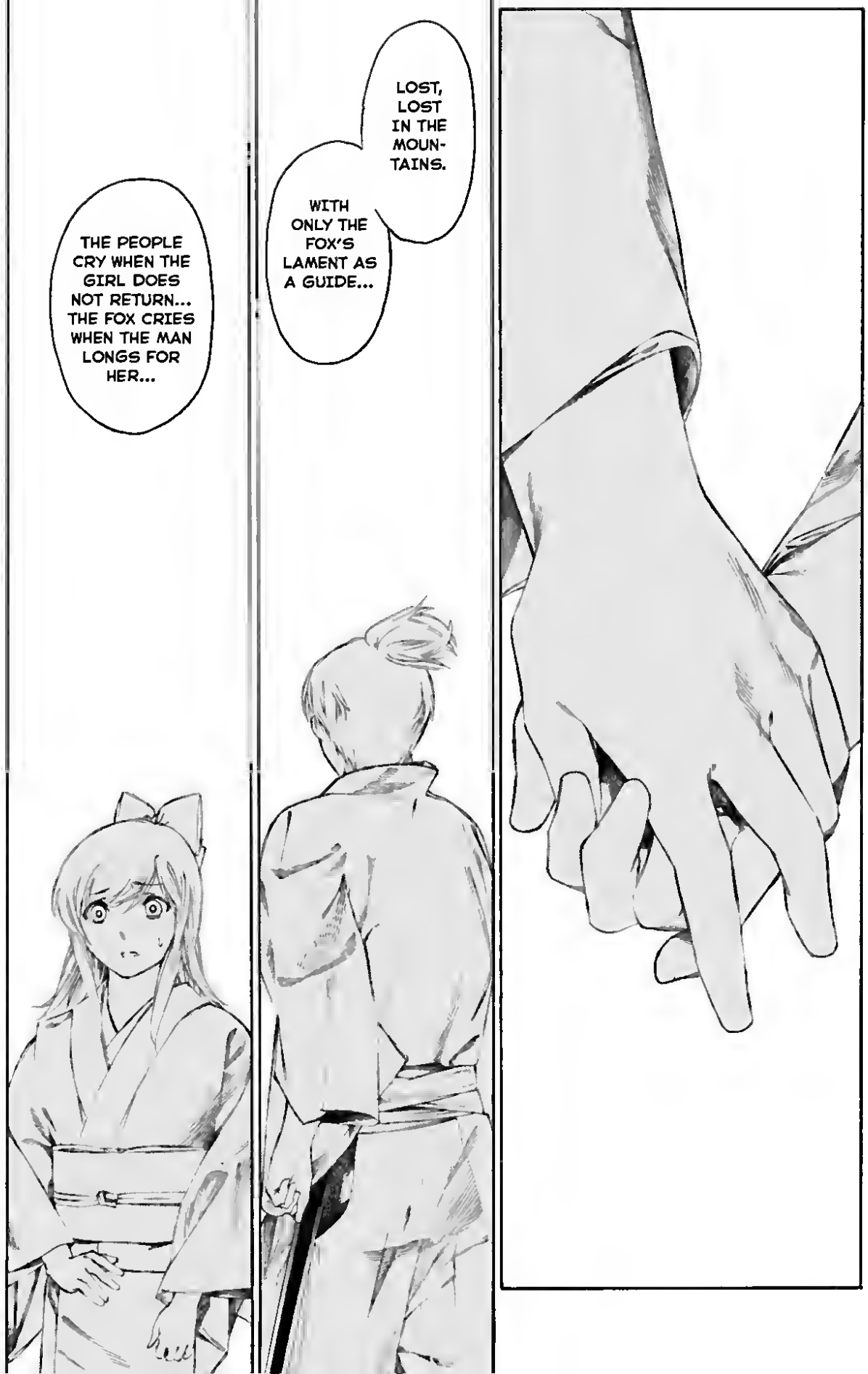

HATSUNE'S GRAVE MARKS THE BORDER OF OUR COUNTRY. WE SHALL WAIT HERE.


VERY WELL.

...WHY NOT TRY CALLING ME RIN IN FRONT OF LADY MIKU AS WELL?
SISTER... ABOUT EARLIER...
hee hee
...!
TURN
PLEASE DON'T TEASE ME, SISTER.
THAT YOU HAVE FOUND YOURSELF A FIANCÉE? TEE HEE... YOU'RE A POPULAR ONE, LEN.
TH-THAT'S RIGHT... WE MUST REPORT THE NEWS TO HATSUNE AS WELL.



THE MOUNTAIN FOX AND THE POOR GIRL...


LOST, LOST IN THE MOUN-TAINS.
WITH ONLY THE FOX'S LAMENT AS A GUIDE...
THE PEOPLE CRY WHEN THE GIRL DOES NOT RETURN... THE FOX CRIES WHEN THE MAN LONGS FOR HER...

HER SPIRIT PLAYS HIDE-AND-SEEK WITH THE FOX...

H-
HATSU...
NE?
...?!
...?

SQUEEZE

LADY MIKU!
Tmp
Tmp Tmp
EEK!
MIKU?!
Stumble

THERE'S NO NEED TO HURRY. WE MUST ONLY MEET WITH THE OTHER PARTY BY NIGHT-FALL, AS I TOLD YOU.
W-WE MUST ARRIVE SOON!
GASHI
FUMP
WAA-AAH!
SIGH.
B-BUT...IF WE MAKE THEM WAIT, THEN PERHAPS THE OTHER PARTY WILL BECOME ANGRY...
YOUR FIANCÉ LORD LEN IS SAID TO BE A TERRIFYING MAN! IF HE IS ANGERED, I'M SURE HE WILL BRANDISH A KATANA AT YOU, WITH A LOUD CRY: GWAAAH!
UM...
WHEN WILL YOUR ANXIOUS NATURE CHANGE, LUKA?
But... But!!
SFX: FWIP FWIP

MIGHT YOU BE LADY MIKU?
...? YES, I AM.

I AM LEN.
WE THOUGHT THAT IT MIGHT BE INCONVENIENT FOR YOU TO BE ON THE ROAD, SO WE CAME TO MEET YOU.
OH MY.
WHAA-AAAA-AAAT?!
DOOM
PLEASE ACCEPT MY DEEPEST APOLOGIES FOR HER ACTIONS. SHE HAS BEEN LIKE THIS EVER SINCE SHE HEARD STORIES OF YOUR MARTIAL SKILL FROM MY FATHER, KAIDOU.
I SEE...
すんすん Shf Shf
LUKA... ISN'T ACTING LIKE THAT EVEN MORE RUDE?
あとわたしマスイですよ
AH... AHHHH! IF YOU PLEASE... IF YOU PLEASE, FORGIVE ME FOR MY...!!
WHAT I SAID BEFORE WAS MERELY A JEST! PLEASE DO NOT WIELD YOUR SWORD AGAINST ME!
ふた Flail
あた Flail
UM... WELL... I won't eat you...
たべないよ…

LET ME INTRODUCE MYSELF PROPERLY. I AM MIKU.
THIS IS MY LADY'S MAID, LUKA. I APPRECIATE YOU AGREEING TO MARRY ME, DESPITE THE SUDDEN PROPOSITION.
WE... WE HAV-EN'T YET OFFERED OUR CON-SENT...!
FWASH
OH MY... AND YOU ARE...?

MY SIS-TER...
I AM RIN.
...LEN.
RIN...?
SISTER?

SISTER
...?

ER... LADY MIKU?
I AM TERRIBLY SORRY. IT'S NOTHING.

I THANK YOU FOR YOUR GUIDANCE, LORD LEN.
NOW, THEN. LET US DEPART.

AND YOU, TOO, ELDER SISTER.
HAVING SEEN RIN, MIKU SUFFERS A SECOND OF INDECISION.
WHAT LIES IN WAIT FOR THIS TRIO IN THE FUTURE...?